

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with applicant's representative, J. Randall Beckers on 09/08/2008.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 13, line 5, after "encoding", -- by an encoder circuit -- has been inserted;

In claim 14, line 5, after "encoding", -- by an encoder circuit -- has been inserted;

In claim 15, line 7, after "encoding", -- by an encoder circuit -- has been inserted;

In claim 16, line 8, after "encoding", -- by an encoder circuit -- has been inserted;

In claim 17, line 11, after "encoding", -- by an encoder circuit -- has been inserted; and

Claim 23 has been canceled.

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest a circuit or method having a combination of elements as recited in the claims including an encoder circuit for encoding a multiplier b based on the secondary Booth algorithm and output a selection signal depending on

a value on a value of  $i$  specifying three consecutive bits  $b_{2i+1}$ ,  $b_{2i}$  and  $b_{2i-1}$  of the multiplier B specified by the value of  $i$ , and including an operation mode in which the decoder circuit outputs a selection signal for selecting a partial product indicating -A when  $i$  is 0 and outputs a selection signal for selecting a partial product indicating 0 when  $i$  is not 0.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chuong D. Ngo whose telephone number is (571) 272-3731. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lewis, Jr. A. Bullock can be reached on (571) 272-3759. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Chuong D Ngo/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2193

09/08/2009